COMMUNITI HEALTH WORKER FROGRAM
2013 GENERAL SESSION
STATE OF UTAH
Chief Sponsor: Luz Robles
House Sponsor: Paul Ray
LONG TITLE
General Description:
This bill directs the Bureau of Health Promotion in the Department of Health to
promote the use of community health workers.
Highlighted Provisions:
This bill:
defines terms;
directs the Bureau of Health Promotion to:
 promote the use of community health workers in medically underserved
communities;
• develop programs to educate community members on available health systems
and reduce dependence on emergency rooms for primary and routine care;
• create an advisory board to receive public input, to shape implementation, and
to address sustainability; and
 report annually to the Legislature;
 establishes a pilot program for the placement of community health workers in
medically underserved populations via grants distributed by the bureau to selected
applicants;
 grants rulemaking authority to the bureau concerning the management of the
program; and

• enables the bureau to seek funding from available funding sources for the purpose



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28	of managing the program.
29	Money Appropriated in this Bill:
30	This bill appropriates in fiscal year 2014:
31	 to the Department of Health - Disease Control and Prevention
31a	$\hat{S} \rightarrow \underline{\text{- Health Promotion}} \leftarrow \hat{S}$, as an ongoing
32	appropriation:
33	• from the General Fund, \$250,000.
34	Other Special Clauses:
35	None
36	Utah Code Sections Affected:
37	ENACTS:
38	26-7-7, Utah Code Annotated 1953
39	
40	Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:
41	Section 1. Section 26-7-7 is enacted to read:
42	26-7-7. Registered Community Heath Worker Pilot Program.
43	(1) As used in this section:
44	(a) "Bureau" means the Bureau of Health Promotion within the Department of Health.
45	(b) "Community health worker" means a person who:
46	(i) is a trusted member and has a close understanding of the socioeconomic status, race,
47	ethnicity, and language of a medically underserved community;
48	(ii) instructs individuals regarding the timely and appropriate use of health care
49	services;
50	(iii) promotes health knowledge and self-sufficiency through outreach, community
51	education, informal counseling, and social support; and
52	(iv) collects data identifying community health needs.
53	(c) "Medically underserved population" is as defined in Section 26-10b-102.
54	(2) The bureau shall:
55	(a) promote the use of community health workers to help individuals and communities
56	to develop and maintain healthy behaviors;
57	(b) establish education programs, using community health workers, with a focus on:
58	(i) reducing community dependence on emergency rooms for primary and routine care;

59	<u>and</u>
60	(ii) instructing community members on the appropriate use of available health systems
61	and insurance options;
62	(c) create an advisory board, comprised of community health workers and
63	representatives from public and private sector organizations that use community health
64	workers, to advise the bureau regarding:
65	(i) the continued improvement of community health through the placement and use of
66	community health workers;
67	(ii) new methods, tools, and partnerships to engage community members in managing
68	their own health; and
69	(iii) ongoing funding opportunities for the development of programs using community
70	health workers;
71	(d) collect and measure data relating to the cost effectiveness of community health
72	worker initiatives; and
73	(e) annually report to the Legislature on its activities and accomplishments.
74	(3) Within appropriations specified by the Legislature for the purposes under
75	Subsection (2)(a), and funds available under Subsection (9), the bureau shall:
76	(a) implement a program for the placement of community health workers; and
77	(b) award grants to public and nonprofit entities to use community health workers in
78	medically underserved populations.
79	(4) The bureau shall award grants based upon:
80	(a) applications submitted to the bureau in the manner and form prescribed by the
81	bureau; and
82	(b) the criteria established in Subsection (6).
83	(5) The application for a grant under Subsection (3) shall contain:
84	(a) a budget;
85	(b) a statement of specific, measurable objectives that can be obtained through the
86	placement of a community health worker and the methods to be used to assess the achievement
87	of those objectives;
88	(c) the precise boundaries of the area to be served by the entity making the application.
89	including a description of the medically underserved population to be served by the grant

90	enabling the placement of a community health worker;
91	(d) the results of an assessment of need demonstrating that the population to be served
92	has a need for a community health worker that will be working with the applicant; and
93	(e) other provisions as determined by the bureau.
94	(6) When awarding a grant for the placement of a community health worker under this
95	chapter, the bureau shall consider the extent to which the applicant:
96	(a) demonstrates that the area or a population group to be served under the application
97	is a medically underserved population and that the applicant, working with the community
98	health worker, will provide assistance to the greatest number of persons residing in the area or
99	included in the population group;
100	(b) utilizes other sources of funding, including private funding, to develop community
101	health-focused programs in keeping with the duties of a community health worker;
102	(c) demonstrates the ability and expertise to serve traditionally medically underserved
103	populations including single heads of households, the elderly, persons with low incomes,
104	persons with limited English proficiency, and persons with chronic diseases; and
105	(d) meets other criteria determined by the department.
106	(7) As funding permits, the bureau shall award grants to selected applicants in amounts
107	not to exceed \$50,000 to each selected applicant.
108	(8) The bureau shall establish rules, in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah
109	Administrative Rulemaking Act, governing the application form, process, and criteria used in
110	awarding grants under this chapter.
111	(9) In addition to the funds appropriated by the Legislature, the bureau may seek
112	federal and other funding to assist in fulfilling the purposes of this section, from public and
113	private sources, including:
114	(a) grants;
115	(b) federal Medicaid matching funds;
116	(c) private, nonprofit organizations; and
117	(d) resources allocated to risk-based delivery models under Section 26-18-405 to
118	increase access to primary care.
119	Section 2. Appropriation.
120	Under the terms and conditions of Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures Act, for

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121	the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013, and ending June 30, 2014, the following sums of money
122	are appropriated from resources not otherwise appropriated, or reduced from amounts
123	previously appropriated, out of the funds or accounts indicated. These sums of money are in
124	addition to any amounts previously appropriated for fiscal year 2014.
125	To Department of Health - Disease Control and Prevention
126	From General Fund \$250,000
127	Schedules of programs
128	\$→ [Department of Health - Disease Control and Prevention] Health Promotion ←\$
128a	<u>\$250,000</u>
129	The Legislature intends that:
130	(1) the Bureau of Health Promotion use the appropriation under this section to
131	establish a program for the placement of community health workers in medically underserved
132	communities under Section 26-7-7; and

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Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel